



Roll Call

CITY COUNCIL MEETING CONDUCTED AS AN ON-LINE ZOOM MEETING Northampton, MA

A regular meeting of the City Council was called to order by City Council President Gina-Louise Sciarra. At 7:17 p.m. on a roll call the following City Councilors were present:

At-Large Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra	At-Large Councilor William H. Dwight
Ward 1 Councilor Michael J. Quinlan, Jr.	Ward 5 Councilor Alex Jarrett
Ward 3 Councilor James B. Nash	Ward 6 Councilor Marianne LaBarge
Ward 4 Councilor John Thorpe	Ward 7 Councilor Rachel Maiore

Absent: Ward 2 Councilor Karen Foster

Announcement of Audio/Video Recording

At 7:17 p.m., Councilor Sciarra convened the regular meeting. She announced that the meeting was being audio and video recorded.

Public Hearing Public Hearing to Consider FY2021 Water and Sewer Rates

Public Hearing

Public Hearing to Consider FY2021 Water and Sewer Rates

Councilor Sciarra read the legal notice of the public hearing:

BY ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL, the Northampton City Council will hold a Public Hearing conducted via Zoom on **Thursday, April 2, 2020 at 7:05 p.m.** The City Council will consider the proposed FY2021 water and sewer rates and hear all persons who wish to be heard thereon.

Councilor Sciarra reviewed the proposed rates as set forth in **20.032 An Order to Establish Water and Sewer Rates for FY2021.**

Councilor Dwight moved to open the public hearing. Councilor Thorpe seconded. The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by voice vote with one absent. (Councilor Foster) The public hearing was opened at 7:20 p.m.

Mayor Narkewicz presented proposed FY2021 water and sewer rates. As councilors will note in the order, administrators are not recommending an increase in either water or sewer rates for FY2021; the recommendation is to maintain them at current levels. They are working very hard to insure that they are managing these funds very wisely and as efficiently as possible. As they also know, they are gearing up for large capital projects. So while they are not recommending a rate increase for FY2021 that does not mean they may not need rate increases in the future. He asked for the council's consideration and adoption of the rates to go into effect July 1st.

Councilor Sciarra asked if anyone wished to speak in favor or against. No one spoke.

There being no further comment, Councilor Dwight moved to close the public hearing. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor Foster absent. The hearing was closed at 7:23 p.m.

Communications and Proclamations from the Mayor

Communications and Proclamations from the Mayor

Mayor Narkewicz confirmed he was joining the meeting live from his isolation chamber but feeling healthy and strong and hoping to be able to end his isolation soon once he receives clearance. He is continuing to work and to be in touch with city officials around the clock. He thanked city employees for working to adapt to this new situation, particularly public safety employees, who continue to carry out their work and be most at risk during this pandemic. City departments are working to continue to provide services remotely. City officials are continuing to maintain financial and administrative functions and are obviously working around the clock to respond and keep the community safe during the pandemic. He has been having daily emergency management team calls and today held a department head meeting to check in with all department heads. He is pleased with the work they are doing under the circumstances, whether it be the Recreation Department's efforts to help people find ways to safely recreate or Senior Services staff doing check-ins on seniors they serve who they know are isolated and vulnerable. All are working very

	<p>hard to address the needs of their constituents. He encouraged people to visit the city website and call city offices. They have a COVID-19 page that is updated almost hourly whether with updates from the Board of Health, construction orders, etc. They want people to have as much real-time information as possible.</p> <p>He has remained in close contact with state officials, legislators, the governor's office and executive branch and has been participating in frequent zoom calls with the governor and lieutenant governor and mayors across the Commonwealth. They are putting out as much information as they can. The Health Department is very much engaged. He commended Health Director Merridith O'Leary and her team who not only are helping Northampton respond to the crisis but are setting up a regional response to do case investigations of patients who have tested positive. Many of their neighboring communities and smaller towns do not have the capacity or infrastructure so they are helping set that up using a grant from the Department of Public Health (DPH). He thanked the first responders who are in the position of having to respond to medical and other calls where COVID symptoms are involved. He is especially proud of the team that was able to open an emergency shelter at Northampton High School. The city's goal was to work with its partner Servicenet which was trying to maintain safety at its Grove Street and interfaith cot shelters but jointly they made the decision to close those two shelters and transfer shelter operations to Northampton High School. He is very proud of the city and staff and all volunteers who have stepped forward to volunteer time and supplies and, in some cases, local institutions who are helping feed folks at the shelter. They are entering night two and are hoping to keep those without housing safe during the outbreak so they can help prevent the spread of the virus.</p> <p>Obviously, he urged people to continue to stay at home, to shelter, to avoid social contact and practice good social distancing, to continue to wash hands and continue to be very judicious in the trips they make outside their home. They continue to watch that curve and believe they are about to enter a several-week period where cases are about to spike. They are concerned with the impact that will have on their health care system and are working with the Cooley Dickinson Hospital to make sure they have contingencies in place in case they do have that increase in patient load. Everyone can do their part by keeping themselves and their families healthy, staying safe and staying home and following guidelines around social distancing.</p> <p>He said he hoped to be able to announce information soon about extended deadlines for filing for abatements, payment of tax bills, etc. He is ready to release that information but, unfortunately, the state legislature seems to be in a bit of gridlock right now about giving mayors the authorization to do that. They are hoping that gridlock can be broken so they can give people reassurance that they have some additional time to pay some of the statutorily-required local bills.</p> <p>He continues to work very closely with the local business community and was on a conference call earlier this week with business leaders. He is working closely with the CDBG office to try to access additional funding they hope to be receiving from the federal government and are working to make sure local businesses have access to all of resources supposed to be made available through the state and federal government.</p> <p>They are working to support those businesses who are continuing to maintain takeout and delivery services, he continued. He encouraged everyone to please follow the city's COVID-19 page that has lots of information being added daily and to follow social media feeds. He asked residents to take care of themselves and their families and to check in on neighbors who may be isolated and alone. The way they're going to stay safe and healthy as a community is by taking care of themselves, their families and their entire community, he suggested. He thanked the council for the opportunity to update the public and concluded by thanking city staff, first responders, medical personnel at the hospital and residents themselves for their cooperation, their vigilance and their work to keep themselves and their families safe.</p>
<p><u>Updates from Council President & Committee Chairs</u></p>	<p><u>Updates from Council President & Committee Chairs</u></p> <p>They know that the city and state remain in a state of emergency but that doesn't mean that their work as councilors stops, Councilor Sciarra counseled. It does mean that they need to be very careful about not diverting resources from essential and emergency business, including staff time. She commended staff for their tireless efforts and asked councilors to continue to limit requests of city staff. She thanked councilors for the work they are doing in answering residents'</p>

	<p>questions, serving as points of connection for residents and sharing ever-changing and expanding resources being created. She encouraged residents to please call on them if needed.</p> <p>Councilor LaBarge announced that the April 6, 2020 meeting of the City Services Committee has been cancelled. In keeping with the spirit of deferring non-urgent items, the May 4, 2020 meeting will also be cancelled unless new appointments are referred.</p> <p>Because of the coronavirus the Disability Commission will not be meeting in April and probably not in May, Councilor LaBarge advised. The work of the commission advances, however, she assured.</p> <p>Councilor LaBarge offered liberal thanks to city staff and department heads, including the Mayor, DPW, Health Department, Fire Department, Police Department, teachers, custodians and uniformed officers. She thanked the doctors, nurses and staff at the Cooley Dickinson Hospital (CDH) who are working tirelessly to help people stricken with the virus. She thanked Councilors Sciarra and Dwight and City Council Administrative Assistant Laura Krutzler. As councilors working hard to minimize the spread of the corona virus, they are asking all residents to continue practicing social distancing, staying at home and washing hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds.</p> <p>Councilor LaBarge reminded listeners that many city businesses are struggling to make it through the crisis. She echoed the Mayor's words emphasizing how critical it is to get together and support local businesses. She mentioned those who have lost jobs and ended by letting people know that she is helping her friend Patty Healey and the Massachusetts Nurses Association (MNA) with a donation box on her lawn.</p>
<u>Recognitions and One-Minute Announcements by Councilors</u>	<p><u>Recognitions and One-Minute Announcements by Councilors</u></p> <p>Councilor Nash thanked everybody for their support while he and his wife were sick. "It was long and harrowing, and it's really great to be back," he shared. He also thanked everyone for respecting their privacy during their illness. He got clearance two days ago to leave his in-home isolation; they are virus free and can venture out in the community.</p> <p>Councilor Maiore shared the number for the CDH Call Center around COVID-19 concerns: 1-888-554-4234.</p> <p>Councilor Jarrett informed those listening that Western Mass Community Mutual Aid now has a website, www.wmacma.org, Coordinators are connecting people in neighborhoods through a series of neighborhood pods to make sure that everyone is checked in on, particularly those over 65. He reiterated that he is here if residents have any questions or concerns.</p>
<u>Resolutions</u>	<p><u>Resolutions</u></p> <p>None.</p>
<u>Presentations</u>	<p><u>Presentations</u></p> <p>None.</p>
<u>Consent Agenda</u>	<p><u>Consent Agenda</u></p> <p>Councilor Sciarra reviewed the single item on the consent agenda, the minutes of March 19, 2020. Councilor Dwight moved approval of the consent agenda. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor Foster absent.</p> <p>The following item was approved as part of the consent agenda:</p> <p>A. <u>Minutes of March 19, 2020</u></p>
<u>Recess for Committee on</u>	<p>At 7:48 p.m., the City Council recessed for the Committee on Finance meeting. The Committee on Finance adjourned at 8:49 p.m. The City Council reconvened at 8:49 p.m.</p>

<u>Finance Meeting</u>	
<u>Financial Orders (on 1st reading)</u> <u>20.032 Order to Establish Water and Sewer Rates for FY2021 - 1st reading</u>	<u>Financial Orders (on 1st reading)</u> <u>20.032 An Order to Establish Water and Sewer Rates for FY2021 - 1st reading</u> Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor Dwight seconded. Mayor Narkewicz mentioned that the parenthetical references to FY19 rates within the order is extraneous and probably should be removed. Councilor Dwight said he saw no harm in leaving it in for informational purposes. The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with one absent (Councilor Foster). <u>See minutes of April 16, 2020 for second reading.</u>
<u>20.035 Order to Accept a Donation of Land on Woodland Drive for Housing and Trail Uses - 1st reading</u> <u>20.036 Order to Accept Donation of Easement for Electric Power to NSH Memorial Park - 1st reading</u>	<u>20.035 An Order to Accept a Donation of Land on Woodland Drive for Housing and Trail Uses - 1st reading</u> Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor Dwight seconded. The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with one absent (Councilor Foster). <u>See minutes of April 16, 2020 for second reading.</u> <u>20.036 An Order to Accept a Donation of Easement for Electric Power to NSH Memorial Park - 1st reading</u> Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with one absent (Councilor Foster). <u>See minutes of April 16, 2020 for second reading.</u>
<u>20.038 Order to Appropriate \$3,000 in CPA Funds to Lathrop Communities for Invasive Species Removal - 1st reading</u>	<u>20.038 An Order to Appropriate \$3,000 in CPA Funds to Lathrop Communities for Invasive Species Removal - 1st reading</u> Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor Dwight seconded. He has only had a few days to look at the order and in that time he has looked at the Select Committee on Pesticide Reduction (SCPR) report and spoken to Chris Hellman of the Community Preservation Committee (CPC), Councilor Jarrett related. The CPC based their decision in part on the work of the select committee. One of SCPR's recommendations is to ban pesticides entirely in places where children play but not city-wide. He would argue that children do play at conservation areas. SCPR has done some work but recommended appointment of another select committee to continue its work and establishment of a permanent pesticide reduction oversight committee, he noted. He is feeling like he wants to do some additional research and try to understand it better. A year and a half ago there was a CPC proposal for herbicide application at the community gardens at Village Hill. There was a lot of opposition and ultimately, the committee did not forward that application. He definitely hears that this is a very minimal application and knows some would describe it as similar to the way doctors might treat someone for cancer; i.e. - putting some poison in as with chemotherapy but ultimately doing so in order that the person will survive and thrive. There is always change in ecosystems, including change introduced by humans. He is interested in hearing other perspectives on this. He doesn't feel ready to vote on this tonight, so he thinks he will abstain. He does feel comfortable moving forward tonight since he will have time to do more research before the second reading. As a SCPR member from the previous council, Councilor Nash said he appreciated Councilor Jarrett's comments. During the committee's limited time working on pesticide reduction, they heard considerable testimony from both the Broad Brook Coalition (BBC), folks at Lathrop and Mr. Feiden in the planning department, and all spoke to the considerable lengths they go to not to broadcast the use of herbicides to address invasive species. The invasives they are treating are

very vibrant and can quickly take over an ecosystem. For him, he found their efforts to be lauded. When possible, they resort to mechanical methods, including pulling invasives by hand. But there is a tipping point they are trying to address to take back these ecosystems from these invasives. He described the care taken to insure very direct application, such as applying the herbicide directly to an individual plant with a cone over the plant.

“I am not in favor of spreading pesticides around,” he assured, but, with climate change and environmental changes due to human habitation, he thinks there are times when application is appropriate. He trusts that both BBC and Lathrop are making efforts to minimize the use. Many people are nowhere near as careful when using these products at home or on commercial properties. He understands the reservations and agrees exploring and talking about it further is a good thing. He wished everybody took the care that BBC and Lathrop take when dealing with these products.

Councilor Jarrett confirmed he did not want to derail the process.

Councilor Sciarra called the motion to a vote, and it passed with seven in favor, one abstention (Councilor Jarrett) and one absent (Councilor Foster) by roll call vote.

See minutes of April 16, 2020 for second reading.

20.039 An Order to Appropriate CPA Funds for Beaver Brook Greenway Invasive Plant Control Project - 1st reading

Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor Dwight seconded.

Similarly, Councilor Jarrett said he would abstain from voting on this order.

The motion passed 7:0 by roll call vote with one abstention (Councilor Jarrett) and one absence (Councilor Foster).

See minutes of April 16, 2020 for second reading.

20.040 An Order to Approve Gift Fund Expenditures for Emergency COVID19 Expenses - 1st reading

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in first reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor Foster absent.

Councilor LaBarge moved to suspend the rules to allow a second reading. Councilor Maiore seconded. The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor Foster absent.

Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the order in second reading. Councilor Dwight seconded. The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor Foster absent.

The following order passed two readings:

20.039 Order to Appropriate CPA Funds for Beaver Brook Greenway Invasive Plant Control Project - 1st reading

20.040 Order to Approve Gift Fund Expenditures for Emergency COVID19 Expenses - 1st reading

City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

April 2, 2020

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

20.040 An Order to Approve Gift Fund Expenditures for Emergency COVID-19 Expenses

Ordered, that

the Northampton City Council in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53 A (Grants and gifts; acceptance and expenditure) authorizes the expenditure of funds donated by the public to be used for any emergency COVID-19 expenses including, but not limited to, the establishment of an emergency shelter to serve vulnerable members of the community who lack housing.

Rules suspended, passed two readings and enrolled.

Financial Orders

(on 2nd reading)

20.033 Order for

FY2020 Budget

Transfers – 2nd

reading

Financial Orders (on 2nd reading):

20.033 An Order for FY2020 Budget Transfers – 2nd reading

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the order in second reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with Councilor Foster absent.

The following order passed two readings:

City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council, March 19, 2020

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

FY20.033 AN ORDER FOR FY2020 BUDGET TRANSFERS

Order that,

The following budgetary transfers be made:

Department	Description		Org	Object	Transfer From:	Transfer To:
City Council	OM	Training and Seminars	11112	530005		\$ 300
City Council	OM	Advertising	11112	534600		\$ 200
City Council	OM	Travel	11112	571001		\$ 700
City Clerk	OM	Ballot Printing	11612	538007		\$ 7,000
City Clerk	OM	Ordinance Updates	11612	538008		\$ 4,000
Debt	OM	Interest on Notes	17503	592500	\$ (12,200)	
Total Budgetary Transfers:					\$ (12,200)	\$ 12,200

Passed two readings and enrolled.

<u>Orders</u>	<u>Orders</u> None.
<u>Ordinances (Not Yet Referred)</u> <u>20.037 Ordinance</u> <u>Re: Essential</u> <u>Services & Muni-</u> <u>cipal Facilities</u>	<u>Ordinances (Not Yet Referred)</u> <u>20.037 An Ordinance Relative to Essential Services and Municipal Facilities</u> Councilor Dwight moved to refer the ordinance to the Planning Board and Legislative Matters. Councilor Thorpe seconded. The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with one absent (Councilor Foster).
<u>Ordinances</u> <u>19.173 Ordinance</u> <u>to Allow Change</u> <u>from One</u> <u>Conforming Use</u> <u>to Another</u> <u>without a Finding</u>	<u>Ordinances</u> <u>19.173 An Ordinance to Allow Change from One Conforming Use to Another without a Finding</u> Councilor Sciarra noted that a sentence had been added by the Office of Planning and Sustainability since the last meeting. Mrs. Krutzler pointed out the additional sentence at the end of 350-9.3 B (2) b), “If the proposal triggers review by another Board under subsection b, above, no ZBA finding shall be required.” Councilor Dwight moved to put the ordinance on the floor with the sentence added as an amendment. Councilor Jarrett seconded. Councilor Dwight restated his motion to propose amending the ordinance by the addition of the final sentence “If the proposal triggers review by another Board under subsection b, above, no ZBA finding shall be required.” Councilor Thorpe seconded. Councilor Dwight opened the discussion by saying he is not sure if councilors have outstanding questions. As far as he understands, no new information has been presented regarding the objections already raised. As a result, his position stands. As he stated last time, he is prepared to vote in favor. Councilor Jarrett asked if the sentence was redundant since the previous sentence states, “When no other board is required to review the proposed change, extension or alteration, the Zoning Board shall make a finding as defined in 9.2B.” Ms. Misch confirmed it is just clarifying language meant to emphasize that there would be a review by one board or the other but not both. The amendment passed unanimously by roll call vote. Councilor Dwight moved to approve the ordinance as amended. Councilor LaBarge seconded. Councilor Nash thanked his colleagues for deferring discussion until he could be present since many of his constituents are particularly concerned about this ordinance. He read the following statement to explain his decision to vote yes. Tonight I will be voting “yes” for the compromise zoning language change concerning conformity and uses. I find the new language simplifies projects into two clear tracks. Owners of non-conforming properties seeking “by right” uses will go to the Zoning Board of Appeals while owners of non-conforming lots that seek uses that fall under Site Plan or Special Permit will go to Planning Board. I find this approach very practical. I am afraid that this decision to vote “yes” will greatly disappoint constituents around Dewey Court. I want to state that my oath of office is to our city and in my mind it would be a violation of this oath for me to vote against an improvement such as the one before us tonight. Choosing to keep confusing, unproductive language in place because it is helpful in a particular instance, but an obstacle overall, is not good governing. My job as a City Councilor is to improve the city, not to tie it in knots. In light of my oath, I hope people understand why I will be voting yes. Now I would like to take a few moments to address a lingering concern.

We spent many years and many hours working to produce our current zoning. We first took several years to develop the Sustainable Northampton Plan under the leadership of OPS Director Feiden. We then spent two years exploring ways to align our zoning with the Sustainable Northampton Plan through the Zoning Revisions Committee, of which I was a member, and received considerable support from Senior Land Planner Carolyn Misch. After two years of meetings and community forums, the ZRC sent recommendations and guidelines to the Planning Board which then used this information to send new zoning language to City Council.

Once at council, the new zoning faced minimal pushback around small additions, new homes, and small developments. However, the sticking point for many including myself had to do with larger infill developments. The spirit of the proposed zoning seemed to break down when applied to larger properties and developments. City Council at the time wisely approved the new zoning while placing a two year moratorium on residential projects of seven or more units until better criteria was developed.

During those years I was an advocate for improving our zoning and I worked closely with Ward 3 City Councilors Owen Freeman-Daniels and Ryan O'Donnell to come up with equitable regulations. I also spent time talking with any city councilor willing to have a conversation. I pushed hard for development that matched neighborhood character. I was very interested in ways to incorporate flexible design. I continued to advocate on behalf of better guidelines right to when the new criteria went to city council, only then did I throw my support behind the final proposal.

There were two important aspects for me that got me to support the seven or more zoning for the URs. One was the incorporation of subdivision standards for driveways and sidewalks that better mirror streetscape, encouraging a relationship between the existing neighborhood and the new development. Secondly, all projects of seven or more units would require a Special Permit and would be subject to the scrutiny of the Planning Board. Armed with some clear criteria, it was my hope that Special Permit projects would be subject to strong challenges from the Planning Board and developers would prefer to explore avenues where properties could be developed "by right".

There is good reason for this. Our zoning for six units or less in urban residential is extremely development friendly. Property owners have considerable latitude to add units or expand their structures. It is a path of little resistance and the resulting projects by and large match their neighborhood but more importantly residents are more accepting of them as new neighbors, I think, because the regulations being followed apply to everyone in the neighborhood.

On the other hand, neighbors of projects that go before the Planning Board, especially Special Permit, have often voiced to me, and I'm sure others have heard this concern, that there is a foregone conclusion that criteria will be adjusted to meet the needs of the developer. I have been asked on numerous occasions, "Jim, is this just a done deal?"

Tonight I am asking for greater scrutiny from our Planning Department and Planning Board when developers are seeking Special Permits. I would like developers to better perceive the Special Permit process as the most difficult way forward. I would like neighbors to have better sense that the city is standing up for our zoning regulations. I say this on behalf of neighbors who have gone through proposals on North Street, Olive Street, Phillips Place, Dewey Court and elsewhere in the city.

For myself as a long-time advocate for equitable zoning, I would like to have a sense that an applicant for a Special Permit needs to make a strong case for their project to move forward. I especially would like to see this scrutiny when a "by right" avenue is available for the property owner as was the case on both Dewey Court and Olive Street.

I would like to add here that by not demonstrating such scrutiny, I worry we may be opening the city up to further legal action. Tonight we are considering this language change as result of a law suit. I will be voting "yes" to fix this glitch in our zoning ordinance and I am urging my colleagues to do so as well. However, I am concerned that there may be other legal vulnerabilities that the City Council cannot fix if greater scrutiny is not applied in the Special Permit process.

This in no way is meant to malign our hard working Planning Department and Planning Board.

But it is meant for us to more deeply consider and implore both of those entities to use the tools at their disposal vis-a-vis our zoning regulations to give neighbors a sense that the city is standing up for them and that zoning regulations are being consistently applied.

I want to be clear that I see this as a concern with process, and not an issue with anyone's dedication to our city. Our Planning Board works very hard. They spend many hours volunteering their time for our city. Everyone should thank them for their service when the opportunity arises. I also firmly believe Ms. Misch always has the best interests of our city at heart. She too works incredibly hard and I want to thank her for all the time she has spent with me and other councilors on this tedious zoning language change.

In closing I will be voting "yes" to protect and improve our city and I ask my colleagues to do so as well.

Councilor Maiore thanked Councilor Nash for his very thoughtful words. They were all curious to hear from him and wanted him to be present for this conversation. She felt like he articulated some of the feelings she's been having. She thinks they all agree they need infill but know they need the smart infill that their residents and city deserve. She sees the Planning Board and ZBA as ideally the place for these things to land and be decided because of their superior expertise and experience in this area. She appreciated his words.

Councilor LaBarge reiterated that she supports this ordinance; she thinks it is the right way to go for the City Northampton. She was a little concerned with Dewey Court with 15 apartments in that area and thinks seven apartments would have been enough.

Councilor Sciarra called the motion to a vote, and it passed 7:1 by roll call vote with Councilor Quinlan opposed and Councilor Foster absent.

See minutes of April 16, 2020 for second reading

Ordinances
19.178 Zone
Change Petition
to Rezone 3
Wright Avenue
from URC to GB –
2nd reading

Ordinances
19.178 Zone Change Petition to Rezone 3 Wright Avenue from URC to GB – 2nd reading
Councilor Dwight moved to approve the zone change in second reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded.

This is a parcel in Ward 3 on Wright Avenue, Councilor Nash confirmed. This is a great use so NETA can expand its parking for its employees. It matches what is going on across the intersection at Northampton Liquors.

The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with one absent (Councilor Foster).

The following ordinance passed two readings:

PETITION FOR AMENDMENT
OF THE ZONING MAP

To: Northampton City Council
Northampton Planning Board

Pursuant to G.L. c. 40A §5, ten registered voters in the City of Northampton,
petition the City Council to change the zoning district for the vacant lot at 3 Wright
Avenue from the current zoning in the URC district to the adjoining GB zoning district.

“To amend the Zoning Map of the City of Northampton
to include the property at 3 Wright Avenue, Map 39A, Lot 19 in the
GB zoning district (change from URC) to match the
adjoining Konz Street property owned
by the same owner Gretna Green Development Corp.
in the GB zoning district”.

Respectfully Submitted

Ten Registered Voters:

Print Name

Edward D. Etnedodge

Shelley Steuer

Sharianne Walker

Nancy Reeves

Mary Ann Jenkins

Scott A King

Robert G. Ghazey

Rebecca L LaRoque

E. Spencer Ghazey-Dates

Frederick K. Foerst

Nicholas Gramari

SARIE A. Bluemer

Signature

Edward D. Etnedodge

Shelley Steuer

Sharianne Walker

Nancy Reeves

Mary Ann Jenkins

Scott A King

Robert G. Ghazey

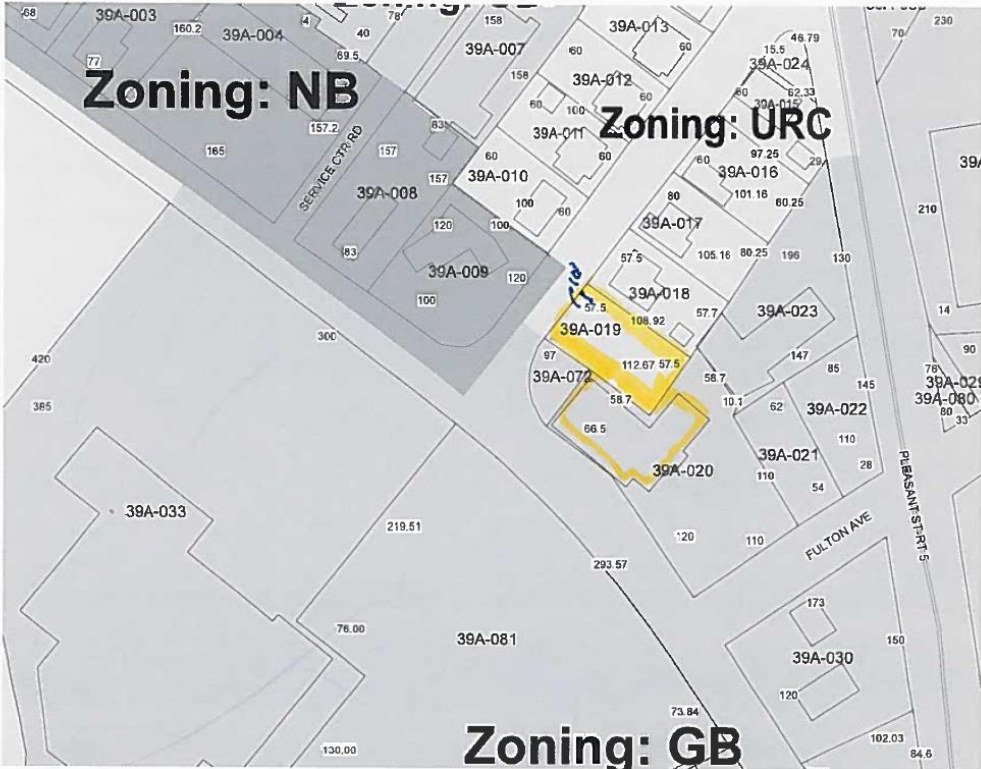
Rebecca L LaRoque

E. Spencer Ghazey-Dates

Frederick K. Foerst

Nicholas Gramari

SARIE A. Bluemer



Passed two readings and enrolled.

**20.004 Ordinance
to Rezone Nine
Conz Street
Parcels from NB
to CB – 2nd
reading**

20.004 An Ordinance to Rezone Nine Conz Street Parcels from NB to CB – 2nd reading

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the ordinance in second reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded.

Councilor Nash said he wanted to address the overall change from NB to CB since he was not present for the first reading. He is supportive of rezoning the parcels from NB to CB. One of the key components is that the NB district will be going away. It is a zone that really doesn't fit the way the city is developing right now. The second piece is that the three new business zones, CB, GB and Entranceway Business (EB), all permit nightclubs by right. There is not another business zone where they could go where operation of a nightclub would be denied. He hopes they are on track to rectify a lot of things not quite lining up.

He referred to the history of how things developed at the WWII club. There is a bit of mystery around how it got permission to open up a nightclub serving liquor with no record of the City Council ever taking a vote. He is hopeful that once they get the form-based code, they can finally get everything (zoning and design standards) to match up, and they can move that one property away from having so many crazy kinds of threads that aren't tied.

To any constituents, he noted that he will be reaching out to the licensing board regarding any rowdy late-night activity. Signature Sounds does not have a history of people wanting to stay out until 2 in the morning and close down a bar. Generally, the crowd it attracts would not be one that neighbors are most concerned about. Crowds usually disperse around 10 or 11 o'clock.

In discussion with the prospective new owner, he does think there is inadequate parking for this particular business. They have parking for 60 cars at the WWII club. It was expressed that there is overflow parking in the neighborhood but there is no parking on Conz Street or Fruit Street. They're talking 250 maybe 300 people including staff; that leaves 150 vehicles that aren't quite accounted for. He suggested to Signature Sounds that they explore talking with some of the nearby private property owners. There is parking available but it isn't public. He wouldn't want an arrangement where people expect to be able to park on private property and then start being towed. He does think there is an opportunity for a really great relationship because all of those lots are empty at night.

These are things he wants constituents to know he is working on as he votes yes tonight.

These have been two difficult conversations because they touch upon two particular projects, Councilor Dwight observed. They have to remind themselves that they're not actually voting on specific projects, they're voting on zoning that may allow these projects to occur. The Dewey Court issue may be moot and not happening anyways. They're not voting on letting Signature Sounds become a nightclub, they're voting on zoning that might allow that to occur. They make zoning not specific to any applicant or any particular process or proposal that's pending, he stressed. They are voting on a law that applies to anyone and everyone that comes within the purview of the law. He wanted that to be clear as they go ahead and make their vote.

Councilor Nash thanked Councilor Dwight for that clarification. He is voting with them not tied together, he confirmed.

Councilor Sciarra called the motion to a vote, and it passed unanimously 8:0 with one absent (Councilor Foster).

The following ordinance passed two readings:

**City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS**

In the Year Two Thousand Twenty

Upon the Recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz and Planning & Sustainability

20.004 An Ordinance to Rezone Nine Conz Street Parcels from NB to CB

An Ordinance of the City of Northampton, Massachusetts, providing that the Code of Ordinances, City of Northampton, Massachusetts, be amended by changing Section 350-3.4 Zoning Map to rezone some parcels in Neighborhood Business to Central Business.

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Northampton, in City Council assembled, as follows:

Amend the Zoning Map as shown

Rezone Map Id's along Conz Street from Neighborhood Business to Central Business:

- 32C-102
- 32C-104
- 32C-105
- 32C-131 NB Portion Only
- 39A-002
- 39A-003
- 39A-004
- 39A-008
- 39A-009

Passed two readings, ordained and enrolled.

20.005 Ordinance to Amend Zoning Map on Old South Street and Clark Avenue – 2nd reading

20.005 An Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Map on Old South Street and Clark Avenue – 2nd reading

Councilor Dwight moved to approve the ordinance in second reading. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion carried 8:0 by roll call vote with one absent (Councilor Foster).

The following ordinance passed two readings:

City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS

In the Year Two Thousand Twenty

Upon the Recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz and Planning & Sustainability

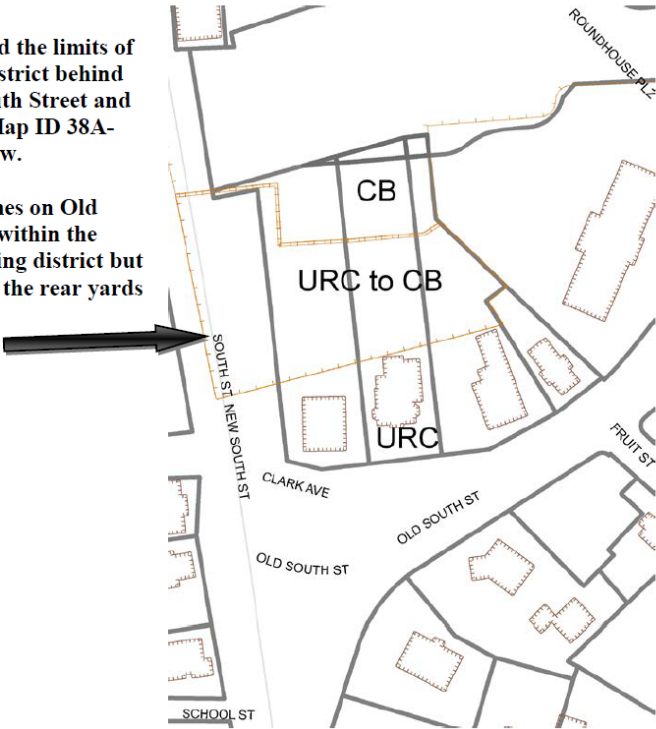
20.005 An Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Map on Old South St. and Clark Ave.

An Ordinance of the City of Northampton, Massachusetts, providing that the Code of Ordinances, City of Northampton, Massachusetts, be amended by amending Section 350-3.4, the Zoning Map, to change the boundary between Central Business (CB) and Urban Residential-C (URC) zoning districts.

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Northampton, in City Council assembled, as follows:

Amend
{§ 350-3.4 Zoning Map to expand the limits of Central Business (CB) zoning district behind the first set of homes on Old South Street and Clark Avenue, on a portion of Map ID 38A-222, 223, and 224, as shown below.

This change would keep the homes on Old South Street and Clark Avenue within the Urban Residential C (URC) zoning district but would expand the CB slightly in the rear yards of those homes.}



Passed two readings, ordained and enrolled.

20.006 Ordinance to Amend Zoning Map to Add New Smart Growth Overlay District at Laurel Street – 2nd reading

20.006 An Ordinance to Amend Zoning Map to Add New Smart Growth Overlay District at Laurel Street – 2nd reading

Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the ordinance in second reading. Councilor Dwight seconded. The motion carried 8:0 by roll call vote with one absent (Councilor Foster).

The following ordinance passed two readings:

City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS

In the Year Two Thousand Twenty

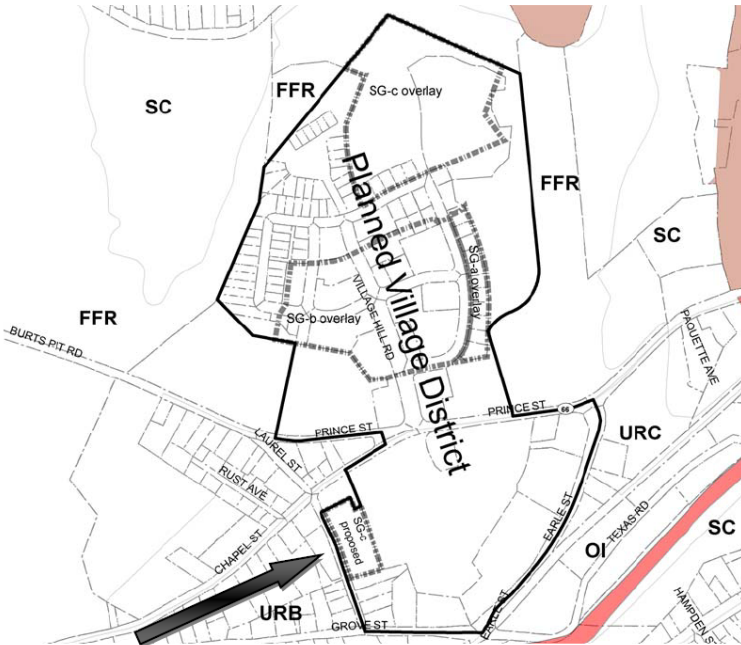
Upon the Recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz and Planning & Sustainability
20.006 An Ordinance
to Amend Zoning Map to Add New Smart Growth Overlay District at Laurel Street

An Ordinance of the City of Northampton, Massachusetts, providing that the Code of Ordinances, City of Northampton, Massachusetts, be amended by amending Section 350-3.4, the Zoning Map, to add a new Smart Growth-c overlay district.

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Northampton, in City Council assembled, as follows:

Amend
{§ 350-3.4 Zoning Map to add additional Smart Growth-c overlay district (SG-c), in addition to the existing three SG overlays, overlain on the existing Planned Village District (PV), on Map ID 38A-049-001, as shown below.

SG-c does not increase the allowed density (the existing PV has no minimum lot size, frontage, width, depth, or setback requirements) but does allow Commonwealth Smart Growth Overlay bonus to the City for affordable housing. Map 38A-049 has already been dedicated to affordable housing by the City’s State Hospital reuse planning and the resulting state legislation.}



Passed two readings, ordained and enrolled.

**20.024 Ordinance
to Change CBAC
Map to Include
Conz Street Lots
Rezoned to CB –
2nd reading**

**20.024 An Ordinance to Change CBAC Map to Include Conz Street Lots Rezoned to CB –
2nd reading**

Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the ordinance in second reading. Councilor Dwight seconded. The motion carried 8:0 by roll call vote with one absent (Councilor Foster).

The following ordinance passed two readings:

	<div>City of Northampton MASSACHUSETTS</div> <div>In the Year Two Thousand Twenty</div> <div>Upon the Recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz and Planning & Sustainability 20.024 An Ordinance to Change CBAC Map to Include Konz Street Lots Rezoned to CB</div> <div>An Ordinance of the City of Northampton, Massachusetts, providing that the Code of Ordinances, City of Northampton, Massachusetts, be amended by changing Section 156-2 CBAC Map to include parcels to be rezoned from NB to CB along Konz Street.</div> <div>Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Northampton, in City Council assembled, as follows:</div> <div>Amend the CBAC Map as shown</div> <div>Map Id's along Konz Street: 32C-102 32C-104 32C-105 32C-131 Current NB Portion Only 39A-002 39A-003 39A-004 39A-008 39A-009</div> <div>Passed two readings, ordained and enrolled.</div>
Information (Charter Provision 2-7) & Study Requests	Information (Charter Provision 2-7) and Information Study Requests None
Motion to Adjourn	Upon motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:51 p.m. The motion passed unanimously 8:0 by roll call vote with one absent (Councilor Foster).
	Attest: Administrative Assistant to the City Council